Current Focus and Future Directions

• Incremental improvements

- Instrumentation
- Targets, structured light, debris
- More obstacles and hazards

• Transportable Facility

- Conferences and Exhibitions
- Tours around the world

• Permanent Facility in U.S.

- Administered by NIST
- Virtual, Indoor, Underground and Outdoor Testing Arenas

• Leverage from other Autonomous Mobile Robot Domains

- Manufacturing Environments
- Hazardous Waste Environments
- Military Reconnaissance/Support
- Planetary Exploration



Yellow and Orange Arenas Crated for Shipping





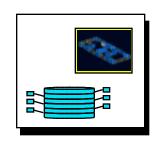
ACTIVE ARENAS

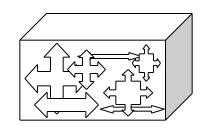


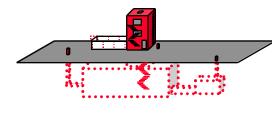




Spectrum of Test ArenasPROPOSED ARENAS









Virtual Arena

- Captured sensor data with ground truth (and noise)
- Faster algorithm development (hardware independent)
- Test successful algorithms in actual arena

Confined Space Maneuver Arena

- Test shape shifting robotic implementations
- Evaluate situational awareness, improved access, shoring
- Environment Negotiation = Navigation + Influence

• Reality Arena

- Realistic, safe, controlled and repeatable
- Above ground and below ground barrier penetrations
- Indoor situational awareness, comms dropouts

Scout Arena

- Equestrian style, sensor based obstacles
- Test marsupial implementations, transition recognition
- For lightweight UGVs (< 500 lbs)

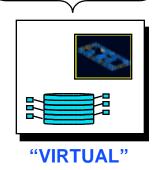




ACTIVE ARENAS



VIRTUAL INDOOR OUTDOOR



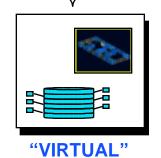


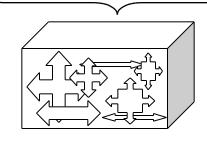


ACTIVE ARENAS



VIRTUAL INDOOR OUTDOOR



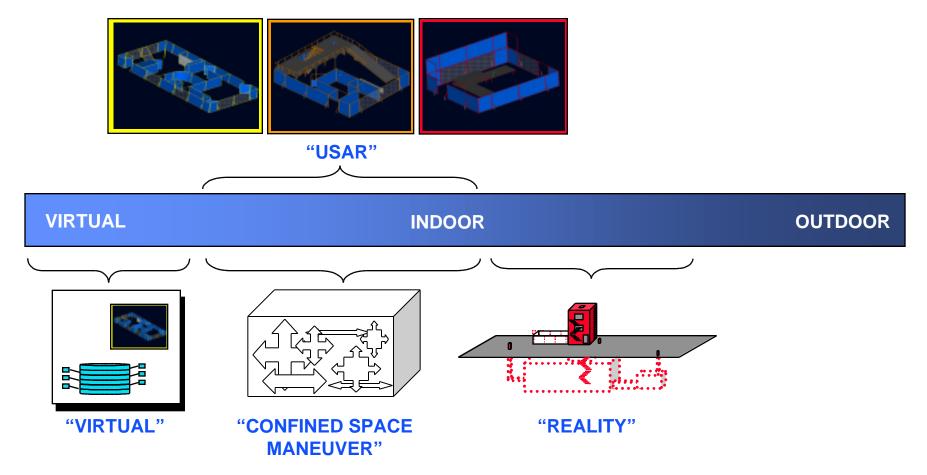


"CONFINED SPACE MANEUVER"





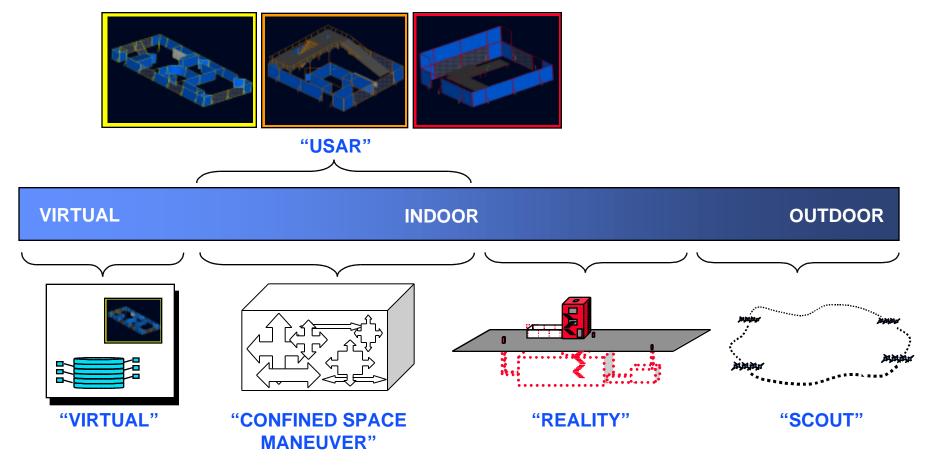
ACTIVE ARENAS







ACTIVE ARENAS







Acquired Venue for Test Arenas

CONVERTED MISSILE SITE



ROOF HATCH



UPPER STAIRS



LOWER STAIRS





CONFINED ACCESS AREAS



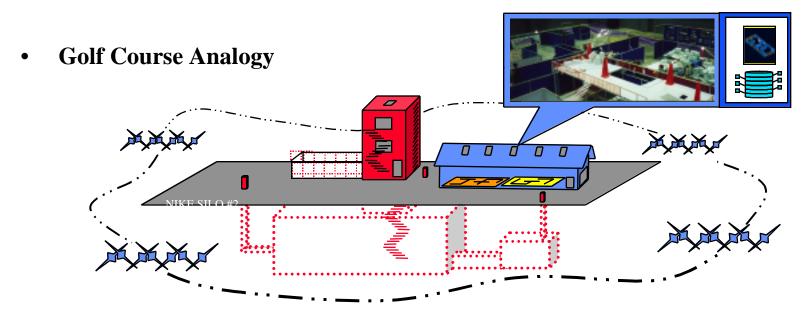
LARGE ROOMS/OBSTACLES





Reference Test Arenas for Mobile Robots WHY, AGAIN, IS THIS NEEDED?

- "Teaching to the Test"
- "Comparing Apples to Oranges"
- "Re-Creating the Wheel"
- "Practice, Practice, Practice"



IF WE BUILD IT... THEY WILL COME!



